GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3452
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
BRAIN DRAIN
SUBODH MOHITE;V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every citizen including students and scientists have to obtain clearance/visa before going abroad either for higher studies or in search of employment for his better future;

(b) if so, the justification behind not maintaining the data of educated Indians going abroad in search of employment at the central level;

(c) whether it is a fact according to last year survey, the number of people who said they wanted to return to India after completing their higher studies in the United States fall from 50 percent in 1985 to 20 percent in 2000;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is also a fact that country is losing as much as $2 billion a year as a result of emigration to US;

(f) the details of steps taken by the Government to minimize the outflow as also to attract the scientists and technologists settled abroad to return to India; and
(g) the extent to which the success has been achieved in this regard during the past five years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) Indian Citizens including Scientists and studentsare not required to obtain clearance from political or security angle for going abroad for studies or employment. However all Indian Citizens are required to obtain visa to visit other countries from their respective embassies unless this requirement is exempted under bilateral agreements.

(b) In view of the above, it is not possible to maintain any database of educated Indians going abroad in search of employment at the Central Level.

(c) The Government is not aware of the survey under reference.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) to (g) Many of those students and Scientists who go abroad for higher studies return with better knowledge. The period of stay of those who go abroad for jobs varies from a few weeks to a few years. Due to high mobility of students and scientists accurate estimation of cost of loss to the country as a result of emigration to US or any other country is not feasible. Several measures have been taken from time to time by the Government to minimize the outflow of professionals from various fields and also to attract them back to the country from abroad. Some of these measures are:

(i) Setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in the universities and academic institutions.

(ii) Creation of core groups of professionals with necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science

(iii) S&T based training for entrepreneurial development.

(iv) Increase in the outlay for science and technology sector in successive Five Year Plan.

(v) Manpower development training/re-training programmes through associateships/fellowships/courses.

(vi) Provisions for temporary placement of scientists and technocrats under the scheme of scientists pool.

(vii) Creation of supernumerary posts.

(viii) Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier

and emerging areas of S&T.

(ix) Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientists.

(x) Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST) fellowship to visit International laboratories and institutions.

(xi) Award of scholarship under Kishore Vaigyanik Prostsahyan Yojana for talented science students.